



Below is an update on the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and Health Insurance Marketplace:

Iowa Health and Wellness Plan

Announcement of Public Comment Period for Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Changes: A public comment period has been announced related to the requested changes to the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan. The Department of Human Services intends to amend the Iowa Wellness Plan State Plan Amendment and the Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan State Plan Amendment. Please see a [copy of the public notice for additional information](#). **The 30-day public comment period closes on December 19, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.** Written comments may be addressed to Maggie Reilly, Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, 100 Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA 50315. Comments may also be sent to the attention of DHS, Iowa Health and Wellness Plan at DHSIMEHealthandWellnesPlan@dhs.state.ia.us.

Reminder: Frequently Asked Questions and Member Letter Regarding the Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan Changes: A frequently asked questions document has been released regarding the changes to the Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan. [Access the FAQ here](#). Members received notice of the change during the first two weeks of November. Members with questions should be instructed to contact Iowa Medicaid Member Services. Access the [Iowa Medicaid member letter](#) and [pharmacy flyer](#).

Reminder: Medicaid Renewal Process Fact Sheets Released: Two new fact sheets are available that walk through the Medicaid coverage renewal process. The first fact sheet explains the process for the member, and can be used directly with members. The second fact sheet is targeted for enrollment assisters, certified application counselors, navigators and others. The second fact sheet provides additional information and tips for those assisting in the enrollment and renewal process. Access the [member fact sheet here](#) and the [enrollment assister fact sheet here](#).

Other Iowa Medicaid Updates

Iowa Medicaid Data Systems to Undergo Maintenance, Will be Temporarily Unavailable: Data and application systems will be unavailable beginning 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 26, and this upgrade may continue into the holiday weekend. Systems will remain offline until Friday morning, November 28. During the maintenance, Iowa Medicaid providers will be unable to access the Iowa Medicaid Portal Access (IMPA) system and electronically file presumptive eligibility applications. Additionally, the electronic application system, the DHS Services portal, will be unavailable. Individuals may complete a [paper application](#), or apply online once system maintenance is complete. Learn more about the maintenance and systems impacted through [Informational Letter 1450](#).

[Health Insurance Marketplace](#)

Open Enrollment Begins: The Open Enrollment Period for the Health Insurance Marketplace began on Saturday, November 15, 2014. During the Open Enrollment Period, consumers can sign up for health care coverage, browse plan options, and make changes in their choice for health care coverage for the next enrollment year. The Open Enrollment Period continues until February 15, 2015. Learn more by visiting HealthCare.gov.

CMS Provides Consumer Enrollment Resource for Stakeholders: CMS has provided a resource for stakeholders to guide consumers on enrolling in health care coverage. The resource can be found [here](#).

CMS Publishes Guidance for FFM Issuers on the Termination of Enrollee's Coverage Due to Death: On October 24, 2014, CMS released new guidance for issuers on the termination of consumers' enrollment in the Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM) due to death of the enrollee. It outlines the process for consumers to report the death of an enrollee through their FFM account or by contacting the Federal Marketplace call center. The guidance also outlines the process for issuers and receipt of 834 transactions. The guidance can be found [here](#).

Please feel free to share this information with others in your organization or your community. If you'd like to subscribe to these email notifications, please email "subscribe" along with your name, organization and contact information to IMECommunications@dhs.state.ia.us.

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